

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

66612

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10/6/73 EXT 21512

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O 070111Z OCT 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 199678

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BEIRUT 11877 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN,
TEL AVIV, USUN NEW YORK & JIDDA DATED 6 OCT 73:

QTE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 11877

EXDIS

DEPT ALSO PASS USINT CAIRO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, XF

SUBJ: POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF CURRENT HOSTILITIES

1. NO INDICATION HERE YET WHETHER SECURITY COUNCIL
WILL BE CALLED AND IF SO BY WHOM.

2. IF CURRENT REPORTS ACCURATE THAT EGYPTIANS HAVE
FOOTHOLD ON EAST BANK SUEZ AND SYRIANS HAVE TAKEN MOUNT
HERMON, I ASSUME ISRAELIS WILL RESIST SC REQUIREMENT FOR
CEASE FIRE IN PLACE UNTIL THEY HAVE DISLODGED SYRIAN AND
SECRET

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EGYPTIAN FORCES.

3. CONTRARIWISE, IF EGYTIAN-SYRIAN ACTION IS PRIMARILY
SYMBOLIC, AIMED AT RETAKING SMALL BIT OF OCCUPIED TERRITORY,

THEY MAY HAVE SOMEONE CALL FOR SC MEETING ASKING FOR IMMEDIATE
STANDSTILL CEASE FIRE.

4. WISH TO POINT OUT POTENTIAL RISKS IN ANY DELAY IN
IMPOSING CEASE FIRE WHICH WOULD PERMIT EXTENSION OF HOSTILI-
TIES. LEBANESE FRONTIER STILL QUIET AND FEDAYEEN LEADERSHIP
AT MOMENT APPEARS TO BE IN DEFENSIVE POSTURE WITH NO IMMEDIATE
PLAN TO INITIATE OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, THERE IS SERIOUS
QUESTION HOW LONG SUCH POSITION WILL BE MAINTAINED. IF
HOSTILITIES CONTINUE ON EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN FRONTS, I BELIEVE
THERE IS HIGH RISK THAT MORE RADICAL FEDAYEEN LEADERS WOULD
SEE THIS AS GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO LAUNCH LIMITED COMMANDO
CROSS-BORDER OPERATIONS INTO ISRAEL FROM LEBANON, THEREBY
EMBROILING ISRAELIS AND LEBANESE. ERGO, FROM OUR VANTAGE
POINT, EARLIEST POSSIBLE CEASE FIRE IS CALLED FOR.

5. NEEDLESS TO SAY, ADOPTION OF PUBLIC U.S. POSITION WHICH IN
ARAB WORLD APPEARS ONE-SIDED IN FAVOR OF ISRAEL WOULD ALSO
MERELY ENHANCE TENDENCY IN ARAB WORLD (INCLUDING FEDAYEEN)
TO LASH OUT AT US INTERESTS IN RETALIATION.
BUFFUM UNQTE
KISSINGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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